

submitted that these amendments do not add any new matter as they merely clarify the information already present in the Specification as submitted.

The Drawings were objected to as all the features of the claims must be set forth in the drawings. Claim 129 has been cancelled, thus eliminating the objection to the drawings. Claim 135, objected to as not being supported by the specification, has also been cancelled.

Claims 62, 65, 123, 124, 125, 128, 130, 131 and 136 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for various reasons. These claims have all been amended to address the causes of indefiniteness. In particular, the claims have been amended to make it clear, as described throughout the specification that the invention contemplates a first and a second security system such that the first security system does not release the responsibility for the container until the second system had taken over responsibility for the container, and vice versa.

Claims 62-67, 123 and 128-136 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Cassidy et al, US Patent 5,615,625 in that Cassidy et al teaches a security system for a lockable container for bank notes that includes a spoiling system and a system to monitor the container between docking stations and in transit with Cassidy being programmable to validate identities and activate the spoiling means when tampered.

It is submitted that Cassidy et al does not and cannot show the claimed invention.

Cassidy relates to the provision of a secure transport container which mates with secure docking stations. These docking stations are generally within a secured area of a bank. This is self evident since, the top surface of the Cassidy et al docking station defines a tray 36 for a cassette 38 which has been preloaded with valuable articles and which are transferred into the interior of the docking station from the cassette. Similarly, when the container arrives at its destination station, the docking station allows for the removal of the contents of the various containers of the secure container 20 back into a cassette. It thus follows that the container 20 is a secure container, which can only be opened at the predetermined docking stations 24, but once the container has been opened and the valuables fed into the tray in area 36 they are no longer protected.

In contrast, the present invention is intended in a particular embodiment for transportation of cash cassettes from a security vehicle to an automatic teller machine. Automatic teller machines are often located in open (that is unsecured) areas of a bank. The

purpose of the present invention is to ensure that the contents of the cash cassette are always and continuously under the supervision and protection of a security system, whether that be the security system of a transportation means used to deliver the cash to the ATM or the security system provided within the ATM itself.

It has been known for thefts from ATMs to be based on tampering of the ATM cash spoiling system. This is indicated at page 29 of the application as filed, line 13 where it indicates that "it is important to ensure that the ink delivery to the cassette cannot be defeated by tampering". Thus, in the present invention the security device within the ATM performs a check to ensure that the delivery path for the delivery means to the interior of the cash cassette has not been tampered with before it communicates with the security system of the transportation means used to deliver the cash cassette to the ATM to instruct that system that the security system within the ATM now has responsibility for protecting the cash cassette and hence the security system of the transportation means can now release the cash cassette from its control.

In contrast, there is no disclosure or teaching in Cassidy that the docking station 24 comprises a security system or that there is any negotiation between a security system in the docking station 24 and the security system within the container 20 to validate that either is fully functional before the other one of the security systems relinquishes responsibility for protecting the valuables.

The only communication between the Cassidy container and the docking station is the delivery of an access code to the container controls to allow opening of the container. This does not meet the criteria set forth in claim 62 that the receiving system (the second security system) verifies "the delivery path for delivering the spoiling means has not been tampered with" or the means for releasing the cash cassette is inhibited if the delivery path has been tampered with, or, as set forth in claim 123, that the two security systems communicate to assure that the receiving system is protecting the container before the delivering system relinquishes protection of the container.

Claims 124-127 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious based on Cassidy et al, US Patent 5,615,625 in view of Boutroy in that Boutroy teaches locking and monitoring a container in a transit vehicle as disclosed at column 14 lines 1-10, and it would have been obvious to add the features of Boutroy to those of Cassidy.

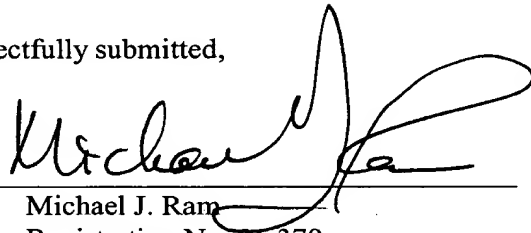
While Boutroy discloses a delivery van including electromagnetic locks for locking attaché style delivery cases into the delivery van (see column 14 lines 7 to 29), there is no teaching of actual negotiation between security systems to ensure that one is functioning before the other relinquishes responsibility for protecting the valuables.

Boutroy shows only a locking system within a transport vehicle. Neither Cassidy nor the combination of Cassidy with Boutroy shows a vehicle with a controller that controls the release of the container and exchanges data with the control means which is part of the container as set forth in claim 124.

Claims 129 and 135 have been cancelled. Claims 62-67, 123-128, 130- 134 and 136 remain in the application. It is respectively submitted that these claims are patentable, fully supported by the Specification and not shown by the prior art. It is requested that the claims be found to be patentable and a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Michael J. Ram  
Registration No. 26,379  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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KOPPEL, JACOBS, PATRICK & HEYBL  
555 St Charles Drive, Suite 107  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360  
Phone (805) 373-0060  
Fax (805) 373-0051  
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MARKED UP VERSION CLAIMS

October 1, 2002.

62. (Amended) A security device for use inside an automatic teller machine, the security device comprising a coupling device for engage [the security device] with a cash cassette of an automatic teller machine, spoiling means for spoiling the contents of the cassette and a controller, in which [as] a monitor is provided to signal when the cash cassette has correctly coupled to the security device and that a delivery path for delivering the spoiling means has not been tampered with, and in which the security device communicates with a security system of a transportation means used to deliver the cash cassette to the ATM, and inhibits the transportation means from releasing the cash cassette if the delivery path has been tampered with.
65. (Amended) The security device as claimed in claim 62, in which the spoiling means comprises a reservoir of ink which can be ejected under pressure via a fluid flow coupling into the cash cassette to [the] degrade the contents thereof.
123. (Amended) A first security system, comprising spoiling means for spoiling the contents of a container in the event of an attach [characterized in that] in which the container is a portable container and the first security system further comprises locking means for locking the first security system onto the portable container to be protected during transportation, [and] control means for controlling the operation of the locking means and the spoiling means, and communication means for exchanging data with a second security system[s] such that the first security system can validate with [a] the second security system that either one of the first or second security systems is [protection] protecting the container before the other one of the first and second of the security systems relinquishes responsibility for protecting the container.
124. (Amended) The security system as claimed in claim 123, characterized by a first module containing the control means and a second module containing the locking [mechanism] means, and in which the spoiling means is contained within one of the first and second modules.

125. (Amended) The security system as claimed in claim 123, further including a vehicle for delivering the container, the vehicle including a second controller which controls the release of container from the vehicle, and wherein the second [vehicle includes a] controller [which] negotiates with the security system to control the release of container from the vehicle.
128. (Amended) The security system as claimed in claim 123, characterized by a first module containing the control means and a second module containing the locking [mechanism] means, and in which the spoiling means is contained within one of the first and second modules.
130. (Amended) The security system as claimed in claim [129] 123 characterized in that the [local memory] security system is programmed with the identity of one or more containers and each automatic teller machine which is scheduled for a cash delivery within a predetermined time period.
131. (Amended) The security system as claimed in claim 123, characterized in the control means is arranged to measure at least one of walk time, distance traveled, and absolute time since release of the container from the second security system and to active the spoiling mechanism if any of these exceeds a preset threshold.
136. (Amended) The security system as claimed in claim 123, characterized in that the spoiling means [mechanism] includes at least one dye reservoir for delivering dye, and one of a compressed gas cylinder, a chemical delivery system for generating gas, and explosive delivery system or a mechanical system for causing the dye to be expelled from the at least one reservoir.